Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Which are those works?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—There are several works the names of which are given in the list.

President.—I think only two contracts were given to this man.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—For Enamakkal work he had a special claim as he had worked at it before, *i. e.*, a year ago.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I find he was working elsewhere also.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—In Trichur he is about the best contractor, I suppose.

President.—What the Hon'ble Member wants to bring out is that one man is not to monopolise all the works.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—With regard to item No. 7 what was the urgency?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The same reasons which I stated for item No. 5 apply to this also.

Works in the P. W. D. not given to the lowest tenderers.

62. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.— Will the Government be pleased

(a) to place on the Table a list of the works not given to the lowest tenderers by the P. W. D. in 1103 showing the names of the works, estimate amount, name of the persons who submitted the tenders with their rates and the name of those whose tenders were accepted;

(b) to state the reason for not accepting the lowest tenders in each case?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.— (a) Out of the approximate number of 1,600 tenders disposed of in 1103 those for 110 works were not awarded to the lowest tenderers. Government consider that the labour involved in preparing a list of the nature asked for is not commensurate with the benefit to be derived therefrom.

(b) Vide reply above.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know why the lowest tenders were not accepted?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—You want to know the reason why the lowest tender has not been accepted in each case. Our answer is that from our experience of previous occasions, we thought that the persons whose tenders were accepted were better fitted to get the work done than the lowest tenderers.

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Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—That is only a general answer.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Well, generally speaking, we do not consider the amount of the lowest tenderer. We thought that the accepted tenderers were better fitted to do the work and that it was not safe to give the work to the lowest tenderers.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Then my question is, why should such people who are not fitted to get the work done be allowed to give tenders ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There might be some works, I say other works, which could be given to them. If we give this work also to that man who has already other works, he will not find it possible to do this work properly.

Suits disposed of by the Munsiffs in 1103.

63. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**— Will the Government be pleased to state the total number of suits, original and small cause, contested and ex-parte, being shown separately, disposed of by each of the existing Munsiffs during the year 1103 ?

Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—A statement giving the information is placed on the Council Table.

Panchayat allotments.

64. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**— Will the Government be pleased

(a) to lay on the Table a list of items sanctioned in the budget for Panchayats which lapsed for non-execution in 1103 showing the amount sanctioned and the reason for the lapse in each case and how such amounts were utilised by the Department ;

(b) amounts of items sanctioned in the budget which were transferred to other items ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) A list furnishing the information is placed on the Council Table.

(b) Vide column 4 of the list.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—In the list placed on the Table the Panchayat allotment for the 'Marana tank' lapsed. Did not the Government know when the estimate was prepared and enquiries made that the tank was under the Devaswam Department ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—There was no information on that point then.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—No enquiries were made as to the ownership of the tank when the estimates were prepared ?

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